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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/619,707 07/15/2003		Un-Chul Paek	5000-1-191DIV	7100	
33942 7	12/09/2004		EXAMINER		
CHA & REITER, LLC 210 ROUTE 4 EAST STE 103			LOPEZ, CARLOS N		
PARAMUS, N			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			1731		
			DATE MAILED: 12/09/2004		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Application No. Applicant(s)										
## Deficies Action Summary Examiner			Application	on No.	Applicant(s)	1.0				
Carlos Lapez - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. If the period for may is specified above is less than their (20) days, a reply within the statutory varietium of their (30) days will be considered freely. If the period for may is specified above is less than their (20) days, a reply with the statutory varietium of their (30) days will be considered freely. If the period for may is specified above is less than their (20) days, a reply with the statutory varietium of their (30) days will be considered freely. If the period for may is specified above is less than their (20) days, a reply with the statutory varietium of their (30) days will be considered freely. If the period for may is specified above is less than their (20) days, and will apple so (4) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A) (A	Office Action Summary		10/619,70)7	PAEK ET AL.					
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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Applicant's claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. 120 is acknowledged. An updated status of the parent application is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The parent claim 9 is drawn to an apparatus for fabricating an optical fiber. It is unclear how method steps for making the preform, the article being worked on by the apparatus, further structurally defines the claimed apparatus recited in parent claim 8.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 5-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Oh et al (US 6,519,974). Oh et al discloses an apparatus for fabricating an optical fiber. The

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claimed preform cover sealing an end of a preform is deemed as Oh's cover 47 covering the upper portion of preform 46, see figure 5. As noted by Oh in Col. 6, lines 1-7, the cover 47 is coupled to a preform end in a sealed manner. The claimed gas supplier is deemed as Oh's nitrogen gas supply 48, see figure 5. The claimed heating means installed at the other end of the preform for heating the preform to draw an optical fiber is deemed as Oh's furnace 28.

Oh notes that the flow of gas through channel 56 of the preform cover 47, generates a reduced pressure condition that partially evacuates the space between the over cladding tube 44 and the preform 46 (Col. 7,lines 23-27). The flow rate through the channel 56 will determine the extend to which the gas pressure in the space is reduced and thus control of the flow rate from nitrogen gas supply 48 will control the pressure in the space (Col. 7, lines 27-31). This arrangement provides a simple and finely adjustable means to apply reduce pressure in the space between the cladding tube and preform (Col. 7, lines 38-41) Since Oh's reducing pressure is finely adjustable it clearly indicates that the flow of the nitrogen gas, and consequently its pressure, is finely regulated. This clearly shows that a regulator for the nitrogen gas flow, or a pressure regulator as claimed by applicant, is inherently present in Oh's apparatus.

It is noted that Oh's disclosure does not limit its use to any particular type of preform. Thus Oh's device is capable of being used to draw a holey optical fiber preform. In fact as noted in MPEP 2115 R-2, "Expressions relating the apparatus to contents thereof during an intended operation are of no significance in determining patentability of the apparatus claim." Ex parte Thibault, 164 USPQ 666, 667 (Bd. App. 1969). Furthermore, "[i]nclusion of material or article worked upon by a structure being claimed does not impart patentability to the claims." In re Young,

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75 F.2d *>996<, 25 USPQ 69 (CCPA 1935) (as restated in In re Otto, 312 F.2d 937, 136 USPQ 458, 459 (CCPA 1963))."

As for claim 6, fixing rod 33, as shown in figure 5, is attached to the top of preform 46 and its capable of holding it in a stationary position.

As for claim 8, the claimed tubular preform, sealing means, storage means, regulating means and heating means is deemed respectively as the above noted preform, cover 47, gas supplier 48, the inherent pressure regulator and furnace 28 of Oh et al. Additionally, it is deemed that the inherent pressure regulator of Oh would supply a constant gas flow in order to maintain the above noted space between the over cladding tube and preform.

As for claim 9, as noted above, "Expressions relating the apparatus to contents thereof during an intended operation are of no significance in determining patentability of the apparatus claim." Ex parte Thibault, 164 USPQ 666, 667 (Bd. App. 1969). Furthermore, "[i]nclusion of material or article worked upon by a structure being claimed does not impart patentability to the claims." In re Young, 75 F.2d *>996<, 25 USPQ 69 (CCPA 1935) (as restated in In re Otto, 312 F.2d 937, 136 USPQ 458, 459 (CCPA 1963))."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. References B-J and N-O have been cited to show the state of the art.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carlos Lopez whose telephone number is 571.272.1193. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 8am - 5pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven Griffin can be reached on 571.272.1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CL

STEVEN P. GRIFFIN SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700